

MUSTANG DAILY

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Sitting one out



STEVE PIERCE/Mustang Daily

Not everyone was caught up in the heat of competition during the Tri-Hoops Classic, held at Cal Poly over the weekend.

Open house idea develops

SCLC okays bid for 'revised' Poly Royal

By Kevin Comerford
Staff Writer

A proposal to bring "a revised version of Poly Royal" to Cal Poly was unanimously approved by a committee of students and city officials late Thursday, signaling the first major step in reinstating the university's banished open house.

At an afternoon meeting of the Student Community Liaison Committee, the body approved a two-page proposal outlining the formation of a "Cal Poly Open House." The document outlines planning and general details for

a mid-April or early May event, to last 11/2 to 2 days.

If the proposal meets approval by university officials — and is approved by President Warren Baker — Cal Poly may see a spring festival as soon as 1994.

"The event we are proposing is a good way to ease back into the Poly Royal we once had," said Ted Ray, a Cal Poly student who serves as the committee's student-neighborhood relations director. Ray authored the proposal in coordination with Greta Viele, a Cal Poly student who serves as the student-community relations director.

Ray hailed the proposal's passage as a giant step for both the city and Cal Poly.

ASI President Kristin Burnett, who chairs the SCLC, agreed.

"If all indications are true, then this is it," Burnett said Sunday. "Fundamentally, we (now) have what we need to begin negotiating with the university."

"It truly is a huge step."

The SCLC consists of many high-ranking officials from Cal Poly, Cuesta College and the city, and addresses their mutual

See SCLC, page 5

More than lines on a road

SLO businesses, bicyclists face-off in upcoming battle for street access

By Kevin Dalrymple
Staff Writer

When the San Luis Obispo City Council sits down in August to consider two downtown bike lane proposals, it will be weighing an issue that goes beyond painting lines on a road.

After an April 8 bicycling accident on Johnson Street that claimed the life of city resident Michael Androwski, bike lane advocates say it's time to give more consideration to bicycles — and to the safety of the people

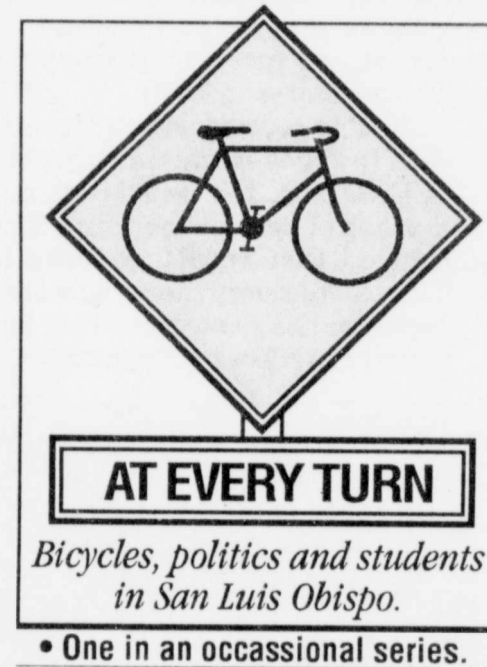
who use them.

But one proposal — a city bike committee plan to create bike lanes on Marsh Street — has business leaders concerned that the removal of 24 parking spaces would dampen downtown business in a tepid economy.

The SLO Chamber of Commerce has another plan, one that would have cyclists pedaling down Pacific Street on a "bike boulevard."

While the Chamber and the bike committee ride different

See BIKE LANES, page 6



Federal jury convicts two of four in King trial

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A federal jury convicted two police officers Saturday of violating the civil rights of black motorist Rodney King, capping a tumultuous two years that began with his videotaped beating and led to the nation's worst rioting in decades. Two other officers were acquitted.

The convictions of the sergeant who supervised the beating and the officer who struck

the most baton blows were announced in an unusual 7 a.m. court session. It lasted only 15 minutes, compared with the jury's agonizing 40 hours of deliberations spread over seven days.

Churchgoers in riot-scarred South Central Los Angeles greeted the decision with high-fives and shouts of "Thank you, Jesus!" and "Justice!"

President Clinton praised the

jury.

All 7,700 city police officers were mobilized in anticipation of the verdict, and 600 National Guard troops were standing by in armories. But the streets were calm after the jury's decision was announced.

The outcome was a dramatic contrast to the officers' first trial in state court a year ago. That jury took 32 hours to acquit them of most assault charges, dead-

locking on one. The verdicts sparked three days of rioting in Los Angeles that killed 54 and caused \$1 billion in damage, and unrest hit other cities from Atlanta to San Francisco.

In the state trial, the four officers faced charges of assault and assault under color of authority. In federal court they faced the more complex charge of violating King's civil rights.

The federal jury had heard

more than six weeks of testimony, including from King, who didn't testify in the state trial. The jury also repeatedly watched the videotape showing King being pummeled by batons, kicked and shocked with an electronic stun gun.

That videotape — shot by George Holliday, who lived across the street from the beating scene and was testing a new

See KING, page 3

Poly students say King verdicts yield relief, justice — finally

By Elaine S. Takemoto
and Kristina Rockhold
Staff Writers

San Luis Obispo woke up and breathed a sigh of relief Saturday, as the verdicts in the Rodney G. King civil rights case were greeted with calm.

After deliberating for seven days, the jury convicted Los Angeles Police Sgt. Stacey C. Koon and Officer Laurence M. Powell of violating King's civil rights.

The panel acquitted Theodore J. Briseno and Timothy E. Wind for their roles in the March 3, 1991 incident that

ignited the costliest rioting ever in Los Angeles and claimed 52 lives.

Hours after the verdicts were released, Cal Poly students went about their normal business, preparing for tests and catching up on homework.

Although a few students studying in the Robert E. Kennedy Library Reserve Room had not yet heard the results, others were relieved and ready to voice their opinion.

"I was glad to see that Koon and Powell were found guilty," said Tammy Smith, an industrial engineering senior.

See STUDENTS, page 6

Professor relates King verdicts to civil rights trials from 1960s

By Kevin Dalrymple
Staff Writer

After their state court acquittal of excessive force charges last April, the four police officers involved in the Rodney King beating were tried again — but this time in federal court.

The switch is not uncommon — especially in cases that have distinctive racial overtones — according to one Cal Poly political science professor.

"This is the sort of thing that was common in the 60s, with cases coming out of the southern states," said John Culver, who teaches POLS 206 — Judicial

Process, at the university.

For the federal convictions, it had to be proven — under a law passed shortly after the Civil War — that the officers conspired to deny King his civil rights, Culver said.

Conspiracy charges are more difficult to prove, Culver said, because it has to be shown the defendants had decided beforehand they were going to beat King.

But Culver said the prosecution was helped by the judge's ruling that they didn't have to show the officers were going to beat King because of his race.

See PROFESSOR, page 6

INSIDE

More on the Rodney King Trial Verdicts

State: A calm Los Angeles now looks to move on and elect a new mayor on Tuesday / **page two**

Opinion: Bryan Bailey is glad the trial is over. But, he asks, has justice been served? / **page four**

Sports

Poly baseball fell from second to fourth place in weekend games / **back page**

WORLD★NATION★STATE

With King cloud lifted, city focuses on future in election

Los Angeles, Calif.

With the cloud over the city lifted by convictions in the Rodney King beating, residents can now focus in earnest on Tuesday's local election, one of the most critical in the history of Los Angeles.

At stake is the direction of the nation's second-largest city as it seeks to capitalize on its collective relief from the verdicts to help heal racial wounds, overcome a financial mess and improve a tarnished image.

The most important race is the one to find a replacement for two-decade Mayor Tom Bradley, who is retiring. Also up for grabs are eight City Council seats, and City Attorney James Hahn is seeking re-election.

A ballot measure that may enjoy a windfall from the King verdict is a

"This election is very important...It's the first time we have an opportunity to bring about any meaningful change."

Joe Cerrell, political consultant

proposed property tax increase to put an extra 1,000 police officers on the force, but that initiative requires a rigorous two-thirds voter approval. A similar measure failed last November.

"This election is very important," said political consultant Joe Cerrell. "It's the first time we have an opportunity to bring about any meaningful change."

But before Saturday's verdicts, in which two officers were convicted and two acquitted, there were fears the election

would come and go, hardly noticed by distracted voters.

News coverage of the election took a back seat to developments in the King case, including riot preparations. A mayoral forum on public television suffered miserable ratings.

Observers also were concerned about the possibility there wouldn't be an election at all. City officials drafted plans to postpone it for a week if the King verdicts triggered another round of violence.

Now, as the city looks forward, the mayoral candidates will in some ways start anew.

The two front-runners, liberal Councilman Michael Woo and conservative multimillionaire businessman Richard Riordan, said they plan in the home stretch to stick to the themes they've used all along.

Their ideas have helped them each attract about a one-quarter slice of the electorate, according to polls, enough to propel them into a two-way runoff on June 8 when the challenge will be to broaden their appeal beyond their political bases.

Woo praised the verdicts in the King case, saying "justice has been done," and singled out the riot-preparedness by new police Chief Willie Williams, who replaced the combative Daryl Gates.

NEWS BRIEFS

World economy shows disparity

Washington, D.C.

The number of poor people in Latin American and Asia should decline by the year 2000 if business continues to improve in the United States and other richer lands, the World Bank predicted in a report Sunday.

But in the Middle East and Africa, the bank expects poverty to increase.

The bank is the biggest source of loans to reduce the numbers of poor, lending out more than \$21 billion a year. It sets its poverty line extremely low: for a single person, no more than what \$1 a day could buy in the United States in 1985.

In this country, the government considers people poor with incomes many times greater than that.

D.C. Rao, the bank's acting chief economist, put the number of poor in the Third World at 1.13 billion in 1990. He said that should go down by 82 million by the year 2000 if recovery here spreads to western Europe and Japan in the next year or so, so that the Third World has a better market for its goods.

SF opens AIDS research facility

San Francisco, Calif.

Scientists in San Francisco are stepping up the fight against AIDS with a new center dedicated to finding a cure for the disease.

The Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology, which officially opens Monday, is a 4-year, \$44 million project bringing together 45 scientists devoted to finding a cure for AIDS. Scientists will work with the University of California at San Francisco's existing AIDS program.

Five research teams will take on different aspects of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, including how it enters human cells, what triggers reproduction and why it produces such a devastating disease.

Rao calculated the largest number of poor in 1990 lived in south Asia — 562 million. Though he did not break the figure down by countries, most were clearly among India's population of more than 866 million.

Rao said the number of poor people in south Asia

would fall to 470 million if things go well, but only to 540 million if the Western world's recovery lags.

Concert sellout triggers violence

Valencia, Calif.

Southern California braced for violence from the Rodney King civil rights verdicts but got a tempest in a theme park instead.

Panicked by rumors of gunfire, thousands of people fled Six Flags Magic Mountain late Saturday after fighting broke out because ticket holders were turned away from oversold concerts featuring the hip-hop group TLC.

Forty people were treated for cuts and bruises. Sixteen of those were taken to hospitals for treatment of minor injuries, said Deputy Gabe Ramirez, spokesman for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Spokeswoman Bonnie Rabjohn said there were no extraordinary precautions, although sheriff's deputies continued to provide weekend security.

The park won't sponsor any more hip-hop or rap concerts, she said. The next musical events are a gospel concert and a Christian singer.

Compiled from Associated Press Reports



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LOCATED ONLY MINUTES FROM CAL POLY

Alcohol involved in fatal vehicle accident KING

By Brad Hamilton
Senior Staff Writer

Alcohol was a factor in an April 2 automobile accident that killed a Cal Poly animal science sophomore, a California Highway Patrol official said.

A toxicology test released Friday showed Jason Lee Morgan, 21, had a blood-alcohol level of .16 at the time of his death. California's legal limit is .08.

Morgan, a horseshoer for Cal Poly's Horse Unit, was driving on Foothill Boulevard toward Los Osos Valley Road in his maroon Ford Ranger pickup when the 10:35 p.m. accident occurred.

Animal science senior Rachel Oxley, a friend of Morgan, said he was either driving home or returning to a party at her house after dropping off a friend at the Cal Poly dorms.

Oxley said Morgan had been at her house since 8:30 or 9 p.m. playing pool.

According to a CHP official, Morgan lost control of his pickup on a straight stretch of road "for unknown reasons." The truck careened across the northbound lane and into the grass, rolling several times. Morgan, who was

not wearing a seat belt, was found 20 feet from the vehicle, which came to rest on its top.

A CHP official said Morgan likely would have survived the accident if he had been wearing a seat belt.

Morgan was pronounced dead at 11:25 p.m. from massive cranial and cervical injuries, the official said.

Morgan, who was not wearing a seat belt, was found 20 feet from the vehicle, which came to rest on its top. A CHP official said Morgan likely would have survived the accident if he had been wearing a seat belt.

CHP Public Affairs Director Frank Stricker said the first witness at the scene, a 28-year-old woman, said she saw headlights tumbling around as she was driving into San Luis Obispo on Foothill Boulevard.

As she approached the vehicle, she noticed an individual laying on the side of the road, the CHP report said. She went to a nearby residence and called for help.

An investigation of the accident disclosed Morgan's estimated minimum speed at 59 mph, Stricker said.

But a friend of Morgan said such a speed would have been unusual for him.

"He did not ever speed in a vehicle," said agribusiness senior Charlene Callaghan. "We used to call him 'Granny.'"

Morgan had been drinking.

"The basic reason why we enforce DUIs (driving under the influence) the way we do is because we would rather take someone off the road and deprive them of their freedom for a while than have them pay the ultimate price," Stricker said.

"He made a drastic mistake," Oxley said, "but it does not change the type of person he was or the way people looked at him."

Oxley said she hopes others will take notice and refrain from drinking and driving.

"Everyone says, 'It will not happen to me,'" Oxley said. "It's the normal human attitude. Everyone assumes they are immortal up to a certain age."

"It's a hard way to learn a lesson."

It's a lesson Callaghan said she has taken to heart. She said she has not drunk alcohol since the accident occurred. She also said others are more mindful of drinking and driving.

A spruce tree was planted above the riding arena at Cal Poly in dedication to Morgan.

From page 1
camera — was broadcast worldwide, provoking debate over police brutality and racism.

Sgt. Stacey Koon, the supervisor at the scene of the March 3, 1991, beating, was convicted of allowing King's civil rights to be violated. Officer Laurence Powell, who delivered the most baton blows in the videotape, was convicted of violating those rights.

Officer Theodore Briseno and Timothy Wind, a rookie officer fired after the beating, were acquitted. Briseno was shown stomping on King at one point but also appeared to try to stop the beating; Wind didn't appear to take a major role.

King was home with his family as the verdicts were read, said his attorney, Milton Grimes, who expressed regret that two of the defendants were acquitted. The case sparked racial tensions because King is black and the officers are white. The federal jury had nine whites, two blacks, and one Hispanic; the state jury in suburban Simi Valley had 10 whites, one Asian, and one Hispanic.

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COMMENTARY

Some 'final' thoughts



By Bryan Bailey

Well, the "Wheel of Justice" has been given its latest pivotal spin, and once again its true colors have been lost amid the blur of judicial processes.

Two up, two down. One more wild card and we could have had a full house.

The announcement of the Rodney King Trial verdicts (capitalized in deference to the book, television series and action figures that are sure to be out soon) on Saturday brings to a close an overblown, overhyped battle waged across the face of the United States in which there were all sorts of losers and not a winner in sight.

Well, almost none. Some astute T-shirt vendors probably made a fast buck selling "Free the LA-4" apparel in Westwood or "The Fire This Time" togs in Compton.

But enough: No more tension from the National Guard or the LAPD. No more threatened civil revolts. No more Reginald Denny-like beatings (or Rodney King-like beatings, either — supposedly).

And it all passed like a ship in the night, as the saying goes. No riots or rebellion. "Justice has been served," is the catchphrase of the day.

But has it really? The fact remains that a man has been beaten — not just as a method of restraint, but viciously with the intent to inflict pain.

Well, Rodney King was scum, you might say. He deserved it, others would argue; he wasn't exactly the model of an outstanding citizen.

Koon and Powell and the rest of the officers who used King for a practice dummy aren't exactly knights in blue, either. The racial epithets and bigoted behavior which were standard practices by Koon and Powell

before the King incident, and which the jury was not exposed to during the trial, are enough to make any prospective employer of policemen sick to his stomach.

Justice was not served by convicting two Los Angeles police officers Saturday of violating an individual's civil rights — neither would it be served by convicting

"Justice has been served," is the catchphrase of the day.

But has it really?

four officers.

Justice will be served when people of all races, ages, genders, political affiliations, sexual orientations — even Michael Bolton and Kenny G fans — can commit traffic violations or other misdemeanor infractions of the law and not worry about ending up in the hospital after the wheels of justice have left tire tracks up and down their spine.

We could probably look at the Rodney King incident and subsequent results in a light similar to the recent Somalia situation; as a band-aid for a much larger problem.

If there is still someone out there who thinks that King-like beatings occur less frequently than once every three weeks, I would advise them to come to the Daily office. We have some one-way tickets to Detroit that we're not using right now.

The riots during the state trial did not occur because Rodney King did not receive justice. Most people, at least those who carried the largest burden of

anger, could probably care less if King's civil rights were violated or not.

Those people were simply tired of getting screwed.

And when proof of this "undesired intercourse" is splashed all over national television and the judicial system continues to deny its existence, well, I think more than one of us has thrown a violent temper-tantrum in frustration before.

Riots seem to be the popular solution to contemporary problems, lately (of course, as members of the college population, we trendsetters leaped on this bandwagon long ago — it's old-hat to us now).

If anything, I think the citizens of Watts, Compton, South Central — wherever — have more reason to riot now than before. Justice hasn't really proven blind in this instance. More like... dyslexic. It's as if the entire trial process is an armistice discussion between the state and the outraged citizenry:

State: Ummm, okay — let's say they've been reprimanded. We don't need to punish them anymore. How about... not guilty?

People: NNOOOOOOOO!!!!!!

State: Oops, uhh, okay, uhhh... two guilty, two not guilty?

People: Well...

If you ask me, the people should hold out until the judicial system offers to indict itself. I guess we'll just have to wait until the sentencing for the real fireworks.

Until then, I'm gonna keep stocking up on band-aids and antiseptic.

Bryan Bailey is Mustang Daily's opinion editor. He gets nervous around cops and other people who carry loaded guns.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Perish the thought

The thought of Cal Poly changing to the semester system makes my stomach turn. One of the reasons I chose Cal Poly was because it was a quarter school.

Semesters are too long. I attended two different junior colleges before transferring here and found that it is so much easier to fall behind in semesters because it is so slow (plus, the "cutting" levels are much higher).

I feel that President Baker should get some more student input before he makes his decision.

Quarters keep you on the move. If you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen.

Julie Collins
Forestry and Natural Resources

Keep the Natatorium open

This letter is to protest the closing of the Natatorium at Cal Poly.

I have been attending a water exercise class there for three years. It is called "Twinges in the Hinges," and was recommended by my physician, Dr. Norris.

The closing of the Natatorium would be a great loss and hardship to people like myself who depend on the water exercises to remain active.

Please register by plea as a senior citizen to the PACBRA to keep the Natatorium open and available to us.

Thank you.

Helen Gore
Arroyo Grande Resident

Collectively speaking

Unlike most Americans and very large majority of Cal Poly students, I feel it is my civic duty to vote whenever a governing body gives me the opportunity. But at this last ASI election, I was one of the 14,000-plus students who did not cast a ballot.

While I accept the blame for not voting, I feel that ASI is partly to blame for my civic irresponsibility. I, as many other students, only have one class on Tuesday and did not even see the polling places. Perhaps ASI could have advertised when and where the voting was to take place.

So I made it a point to take the time on my busy Wednesday to make it to a voting booth. I did not know what time the booths would be open, so I logically called the ASI office, figuring of all places the ASI office would know what time the ASI election would take place.

The first person I talked to was very courteous, but didn't know. I was connected to someone else in the office who didn't know. I was given another number to call. This person didn't know but knew a person who would know. But he was in a meeting.

I gave up.

I headed to the polls around noon, when I figured they must be open. After waiting in line in front of the Dexter Building, the nice old lady told me that I had to go up to the UU to vote, on account of my major. I did not have time to head up the hill because I had to go to work.

I headed up the hill a few hours later, and as I was walking up the hill, I saw a big truck picking up ballots from the postal kiosks. I asked the man loading all of the ballots on the truck what time the polls were closing. Apparently the polls had closed already. I should have been given the number of the Ballot Pick-up Man, one person who knew the polling times.

ASI must really have their collective heads up their collective butts if they don't know what time their own election will take place. Hopefully, whoever wins the runoff will act on their campaign rhetoric and make a change in student government.

Craig Stout
Art and Design

Clarification:

In last Thursday's Arts and Entertainment section, it was stated that the band The Names would be playing BackStage Pizza.

Unfortunately, The Names have canceled this particular performance.

Instead, Itchy McGuirk will play BackStage on Tuesday, April 20 at noon.

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SCLC

From page 1
concerns. Thursday's SCLC vote allowed simultaneous approval of the plan from all affected parties, including San Luis Obispo Police Chief Jim Gardiner.

"I think a two-day event like the one they are proposing has the most chance for success," Gardiner said. "The university has been easing into something like this proposal for years."

The event is not proposed as "Poly Royal," but as a revised version of it. The event is tentatively being called "Cal Poly Open House," but the name will likely change.

"The students will choose the name just as it was done in the past," Ray said. "Open House" is the generic name we have given it for now, but we are definitely open to suggestions."

Several of the event guidelines are very similar to previous Poly Royal festivals. The event would be centered around a theme that would reflect a positive aspect of Cal Poly to be showcased that particular year. That theme would be chosen through a student contest.

According to the proposal, the

main objective of the event would be to bring the campus and the community together in order to showcase Cal Poly's educational excellence. There would be booths and other displays set up around campus which would serve as an opportunity for groups on campus to raise money by selling T-shirts and other items.

Participating clubs and other non-academic groups would be responsible for displaying a philanthropic or community-related project sponsored by their group.

The now-defunct Poly Royal was a decades-old university tradition which attracted thousands of tourists, California college and high school students and Poly students' families to the area. In 1989, the event degenerated into a alcohol-laden festival which featured minor clashes with police. And in 1990, a mini-riot erupted on the second day of Poly Royal when a bottle-throwing mob faced off with police near campus. Many students — most of them from out of town — were arrested in the fracas, which made national headlines.

Burnett said the event's new focus would stave off a repetition of the riots.

"We're reorienting so that kind of thing won't happen," she said. "We're taking steps that

will not only reorient it but sponsor ... and plan (the event) differently. I think we want to earn back some respect."

Burnett said she will meet with Hazel Scott, Cal Poly's vice

president for student affairs, in two weeks. The two will shore up details before forwarding the plan to President Warren Baker. Baker will have final say on the proposal.

BASEBALL

From back page
couple of different pitches."

At the end of two innings, the Mustangs were faced with a 9-3 deficit.

The Mustangs climbed to within 9-7 via a Macalutas' RBI-single in the third and his second solo shot of the day in the fifth.

The Mustangs travel to UC Santa Barbara Tuesday and resume conference play against Cal State Los Angeles this weekend.

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APRIL 19-22 • 9am-4pm • DEXTER LAWN

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PROFESSOR

From page 1

Culver said he was pleased with the verdicts, and would have been surprised if all four had been acquitted again.

The two who were convicted — Sgt. Stacey Koon and Officer Thomas Powell — will be sentenced Aug. 4. They could receive up to 10 years in prison, though Culver said that's unlikely.

Culver said he feels there needs to be a similar sentence for Koon and Powell and the Denny defendants — the three men

charged with beating trucker Reginald Denny at the beginning of last year's riots — because both cases involve racial beatings.

"If (the) white officers get a lenient sentence, and the black defendants get a long sentence," he said, "that will confirm many people's views that the system works one way for whites and one way for blacks."

After the verdicts, Ira Salzman, Koon's lawyer, said

there could be an appeal based on the judge's decision allowing jurors to watch videotaped testimony Officer Theodore Briseno gave during the state case.

"My gut reaction (is) that the appeal would be unsuccessful, because the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has a fairly liberal reputation," Culver said.

"They could appeal to the (U.S.) Supreme Court," he said. "(But) I doubt very much they would want to hear it."

STUDENTS

From page 1

Smith participated in a protest held in the University Union last year after a Simi Valley jury found all four officers not guilty.

"Last year I thought it was ridiculous for them to be acquitted as if the whole incident had just been overlooked," she said. "Justice had not been served."

Smith believed the jurors were under extreme pressure and felt the weight of their decisions.

"It seemed as though they were trying to appease not only themselves but also society," she said.

Los Angeles County alone spent at least \$5 million on the massive show of force which included hundreds of law enforcement and National Guard reserves throughout Southern California.

About 3,200 officers patrolled all areas of Los Angeles an hour before the verdicts were read

Saturday — almost 10 times the normal patrol force.

Landscape architecture senior Garth Dahlgren was researching a project site in downtown Los Angeles when the verdicts were announced.

"The police were everywhere," he said. "And there was nobody around."

"Downtown at the Hall of Records, City Hall and other city-county buildings there (had) two to six sheriff's deputies at each entrance," Dahlgren said.

"Because of the rebellion that almost engulfed the whole city last year, I don't think it was inappropriate for the number of police officers," he said.

Computer science senior Meg Bernal was satisfied with the protracted outcome.

"Everybody knows they should have been convicted," she said. "It's just too bad that it took the riots for people to listen and for things to change."

Koon and Powell will be sentenced on Aug. 4.

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BIKE LANES

From page 1

paths to a solution, some wonder why the issue is ringed with political spokes.

"It touches a lot of people's nerves," said Craig Anderson, head of the city bike committee.

"There are a lot of people who think this is a special interest lobby, that it's benefitting a small group of people," he said. "(They think) it's absurd to be spending (city) money on bicycle lanes."

The committee proposal keeps one-way traffic and curbside parking on Marsh. But one lane of traffic would be removed to accommodate a bike lane on each side of the street. At intersections, parking spaces would be eliminated.

That detail has business representatives balking at the plan.

"From our perspective, business has already been impacted by the recession," said Rebecca Berner, director of communications for the SLO Chamber of Commerce. "If you take out parking it could definitely impact them (further)."

Business Improvement Association Administrator Lynn Block has similar concerns.

"We support bike lanes when they're appropriate and when they don't harm the economic environment," she said.

Block said the city has set a \$6,000 replacement value on each parking space, and feels the bike committee should reimburse the city's parking fund if its plan is approved.

But she is hoping that won't happen.

"We have a vested interest in maintaining all the parking for customers in the central core," Block said.

Anderson said the elimination of parking would not seriously impact the tides of business in an area with 1,500 parking spots.

"It's really not that significant," he said. "But that's not the way they see it."

John Ewan, chair of the Chamber's Circulation-Clean Air Task Force, does envision things differently.

The chamber wants to create cul-de-sacs along Pacific Street and remove stop signs to give the right-of-way to bicyclists — a move Ewan said would reduce the number of intersections and make biking safer.

But Anderson said altering Pacific is not realistic because bicyclists prefer to use Marsh.

"This is a proposal from people who (generally) don't ride bikes," he said.

"If people are going to use Marsh (to bike), then why don't we just make it a safer place for them to do it."

The recent restriping of Foothill Boulevard, Ewan said, is a good example of why the Chamber's plan for Pacific would work.

Cyclists, he said, had generally avoided Foothill because it was dangerous. But after the lanes were put in, people came to them.

"That's the whole premise; if you build it, they will come," Ewan said.

"Marsh is a bandage approach rather than doing something bold and innovative," Ewan said. "Bike lanes are safer (than nothing), but we can do better."

The business community's concern with parking removal is heard in City Hall.

Councilmember David Romero said he is opposed to taking away parking spaces downtown where parking is extremely valuable.

"We're all for bike safety," Romero said. "But it has to be balanced against the convenience of ... the shoppers and businesses that need the parking."

Mayor Peg Pinard said the Foothill Boulevard restriping was a good example of compromise. Bike lanes reduced lanes of auto traffic, not curbside parking.

She said this is the direction to go to accommodate both groups.

"Parking is perceived as being 'business friendly,'" she said. "We need to be sensitive to this."

Berner said the business community's concern with parking doesn't mean it doesn't like bike lanes.

"I don't want to paint the business community as wanting to create pollution," Berner said. "They have to live here and breathe the air, too."

Ewan said a fear of change fuels the political struggle.

"You have merchants who see parking spaces as dollars," he said, "and yet we all know that we have to make strides toward using alternative means of transit."

Pat Veesart, chair of the County Alternative Transportation Task Force, said he foresees a difficult battle between the two proposals.

The stakes, he said, are high.

"If we don't provide a safe place for people to ride," Veesart said, "there's going to be more conflicts between autos and bicycles, and we're going to have more fatalities."

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Cleveland fans would laugh at us

I've never been much of an election fan, and it seems most of you feel that way too. Only 1,516 students voted Tuesday and Wednesday on who they wanted for their next head chief.

- Even the Cleveland Indians can draw a bigger crowd in mid-August.

- For those voting with their jockstraps in mind, here's how our two runoff candidates perceive athletics:

- Marquam Piros is a staunch supporter of Mustang sports and feels "the athletic department should continue to grow. Athletics provides diversification. It brings a different element and unites students together."

- Shawn Reeves leans more toward putting athletics and academics on an even keel: "We need to concentrate solely on academics. We have to determine what is the correct mixture."

- Since the ASI President has a say in recommending how much money should be budgeted toward athletics, vote tomorrow and Wednesday.

- Speaking of money, I learned in my art class last week that New York's museums rake in more cash than the state's professional athletic teams.

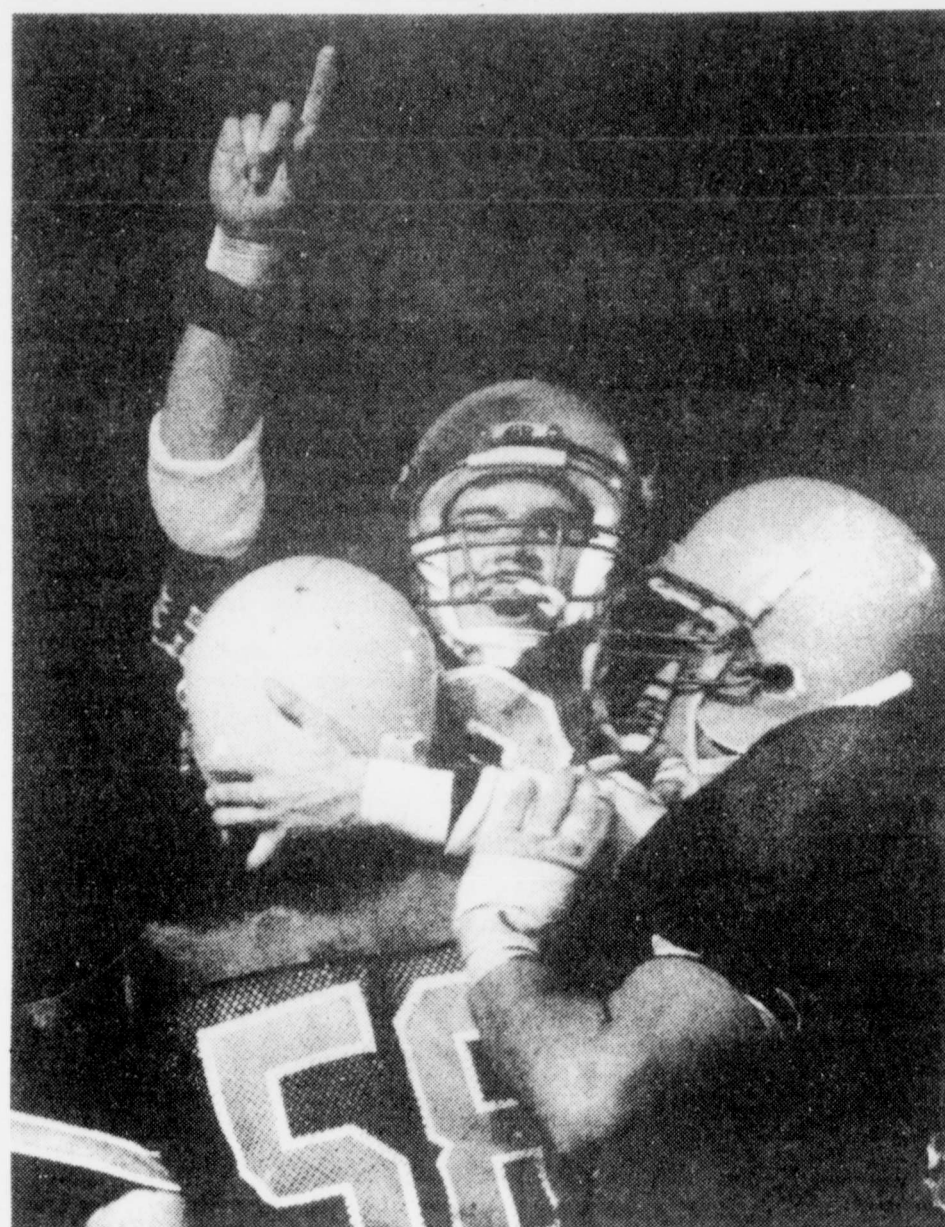
- Cal Poly baseball players are getting their money's worth out of their lumber. Before last weekend's series at Pomona, five of the conference's top 10 batting averages were those belonging to Mustangs.

- Lucky there was no sequel to last year's L.A. riots — Cal Poly's baseball, men's and women's tennis and track and field teams were all competing in the Southland Saturday.

- Anyone looking to cheer on those Mustang athletic teams and is willing to suit up in a skirt — or even Musty the Mustang's costume — should report to Mott Gym April 30 through May 2 for tryouts.

- Yee haw! It's rodeo time at Cal Poly this weekend. Look for a preview Friday on the spring rodeo, which will be held Saturday and Sunday.

- Los Angeles Times columnist Mike Downey wrote Friday what it would be like seeing Joe Montana in a non-49ers uniform. His comparisons included: "Don King, blonde. Magic Johnson, Minnesota Timberwolf. Dick Clark, with a goatee. Super Bowl Wednesday."



STEVE PIERCE/Mustang Daily

The Mustangs, who celebrated only four wins last year, open spring practice today. Drills will continue through May 15.

Spring drills start for Poly football

By Kevin Comerford
Staff Writer

Spring is here, the air is warm and baseball is fresh in everyone's mind.

But don't forget the boys of fall, the Cal Poly Football team, which begins practice today for its 1993 season.

Practices will be held 3 to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, concluding with the annual intrasquad spring game on May 15.

Head coach Lyle Setencich is hoping many questions will be answered during this time.

"What we need to get accomplished this spring is to get our players in the right positions and make sure the rest of our personnel is ready come fall," said Setencich, who is entering his seventh season at the helm.

There will be many new faces who line up for Cal Poly this spring, including seven transfers from the University of Santa Clara, which recently dropped its football program.

Of those seven transfers from Santa Clara, two of them started last year for the Broncos. Derek Giannini and Alex Garwood were both defensive starters and should be quality additions to the Mustangs.

The Mustangs have 32 letter-

men returning from last year's team, which went 4-5-1 overall and 2-2-1 in the Western Football Conference.

Setencich's coaching duties have been rearranged for the upcoming year. He will no longer be offensive coordinator, but now fills the role as defensive coordinator, replacing the retired Bill Dutton.

Setencich is happy with his new role and expects it to be a positive switch.

"This move is definitely in the best interest of the program," he said.

Defense should be the Mustangs' strength, with Setencich saying this year's linebackers are as good as any he's seen in his tenure.

"Our linebacker's are our strong point for our team this year," he said. "We have both depth and size at that position."

Another strength for the Mustangs will be at tight end. They are returning third-team All-WFC star Jeff Radcliffe, who led the team with 26 receptions.

Poncho Renteria, who shared time at quarterback with now gone David Stainbrook, will return along with all-conference running back Brian Fitz — the team's top rusher with 803 yards and 10 touchdowns last year.

Pitching falters at Pomona Saturday

By Brad Hamilton
Senior Staff Writer

Cal Poly moved into second place in the California Collegiate Athletic Association's baseball standings with a 4-3 victory at Cal Poly Pomona Friday.

However, the Mustangs dropped both games of a doubleheader Saturday with Pomona, 10-4 and 10-7, and returned to third place.

By sweeping the Mustangs, Pomona moved into first place with an 11-8 record. UC Riverside is in second (9-7) while Cal State Dominguez Hills sits percentage points behind the Mustangs with its 10-9 mark.

Cal Poly coach Steve McFarland said he thinks the Mustangs have a good chance to turn things around because SLO Stadium will play host to 10 of the team's last 13 games.

"We did not play good defense Saturday and we did not pitch well," McFarland said. "The combination of the two led to a lot of runs."

But things were different Friday.

Cal Poly's all-time win leader, Dan Chergey, went the distance for the fourth time and kept the Broncos' potent offense caged. He allowed seven hits, struck out six and walked none to improve his record to 7-1.

While Chergey baffled the Broncos, first baseman Grant Munger hit a solo shot and left fielder Phil James doubled in two runs to assist in the come-from-behind victory.

All four of Cal Poly's runs came in the ninth inning.

The Mustangs touched opposing starter Shannon Albright for only three hits before entering the ninth inning down 2-0.

In the fifth inning of Saturday's opener, Cal Poly's Rob Neal

collected his team-leading 39th RBI with a single to right, scoring James from second and presenting the Mustangs with a 3-2 lead.

Jon Macalutas ripped the first pitch of the sixth inning over the left field fence for a solo home run — his third of the season.

Mustang starter Paul Souza (5-5) exited the game in the seventh inning, leaving Scott Mollahan with runners on second and third and no outs.

Mollahan, who pitched 7 1/3 innings in his win over Fresno State Tuesday, gave up a two-run single and exited the game without recording an out. He gave up two hits and walked in a run before handing the ball over to Kevin Hannigan, who struck out the next batter.

Pomona scored five runs on three hits and two errors in the seventh to lead 9-4.

The Broncos added another run in the eighth.

The second game of the twin-bill was opened with a touch of offensive consistency.

Simonich led the game off with a single that evolved into a three-run rally.

But Eric Hill took the mound for the bottom half of the first inning with an ailing elbow.

Hill gave up five runs on four hits and two errors in the opening frame. With runners on first and second base and no outs, Hill was yanked off the mound in favor of Shannon Stephens.

"Hill is at a point where we do not expect much from him," said McFarland, who added that Hill will most likely be pulled from the starting rotation. "He is only able to throw from one release point, so he can only throw a

See BASEBALL, page 5

Poly softball falls in semis

Cal Poly couldn't keep up its hot start in the Pepsi-Cola Classic at Bakersfield, and fell 3-2 in the semifinals Sunday to UC Riverside.

The Mustangs outthit the Highlanders 8-6, but still had difficulty adjusting to the pace of Riverside pitcher Kim Maxwell.

"The pitcher (Maxwell) was very slow and we didn't adjust at all," Cal Poly coach Lisa Boyer said.

The Mustangs took a brief 1-0 lead in the second inning before Riverside scored single runs in the second, third and fourth innings.

Cal Poly's other run came in the fifth.

Rhonda Gavert went 2-for-3 off Maxwell and scored a run while Marlo Aubert had a double.

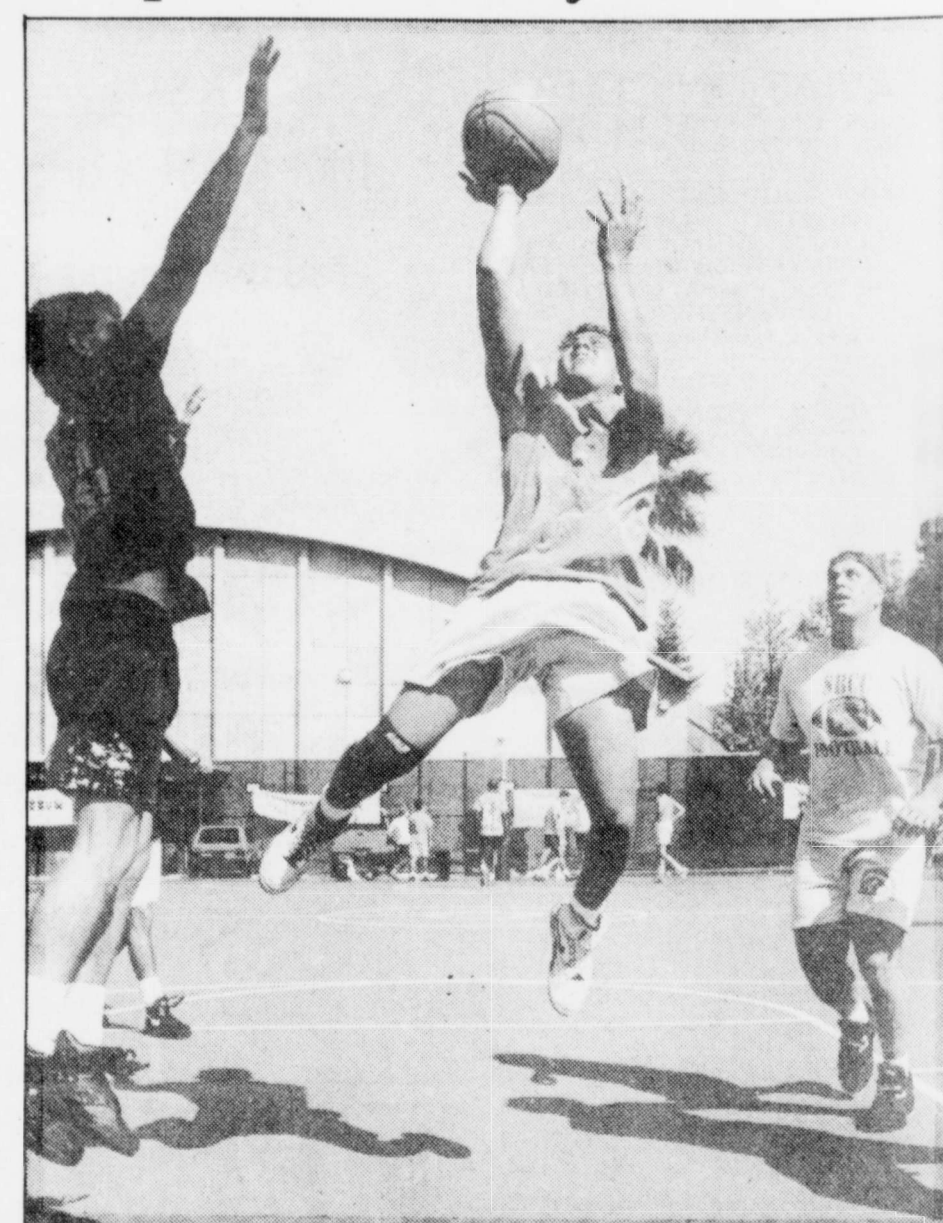
The Mustangs (23-12 overall) fell to Portland State 3-0 Satur-

day after winning their first three games of the three-day tournament.

In Friday's shutout victories over Cal State San Bernardino and Cal State Dominguez Hills, Julie Zaccheo collected four hits, including a solo home run.

Conference-leader Cal State Bakersfield comes to Cal Poly Wednesday for a 1:30 p.m. doubleheader.

Hoopin' for charity



STEVE PIERCE/Mustang Daily

Mechanical Engineering freshman Jose Hernandez drives the lane Sunday in the second annual Tri-Hoops Classic. The two-day tournament is organized by the Delta Upsilon fraternity, with all contributions going to The March of Dimes.